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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.                     

TOPIC Control of the Zonal Border

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EVALUATION                      PLACE OBTAINED                     

DATE OF CONTENT mid-May to 1 June 1951

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DATE OBTAINED                      DATE PREPARED 27 June 1951

REFERENCES                     

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)                     

REMARKS                     

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1. On 1 June 1951, a Soviet komendantura with a staff of eight men was ~~observed~~ in the Muna Siedlung (settlement) in Stapelburg (M 52/D 07).
2. On 1 June, no Soviet troops were observed in Ilsenburg (M 52/D 06). The Ilsenburg Grenzpolizei sector is divided into four border divisions: from Abbenrode (M 52/C 97) to the Stapelburg-Eckertal railroad line; to Arosburg (M 52/C 96); to Scharfenstein (M 52/C 96); and to Mt. Brocken. About 30 police were stationed in Ilsenburg, about 10 police in Scharfenstein and an undetermined number of police in the forester's house in Eckerkrug.
3. On 19 May, 40 to 50 Soviet soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets were stationed in Geismar (L 52/H 79). A detail of 1 lieutenant and 20 men with black-bordered crimson epaulets was stationed in Pfaffschwende, and drew supplies from Geismar. Geismar and Pfaffschwende residents said that there were no other Soviet details in the vicinity of the two localities. No air observation posts were noticed in this area.
4. A Volkspolizei Kommando of about 50 police was stationed in Geismar. It controlled a detail of 15 police in Bebandorf, a detail of 15 police in Gross-Toepfer, and a detail of 36 police in Volkerode. The detail in Volkerode recently received two riding horses and was eventually to have six. In addition, the detail was to get 10 dogs.

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5. Prior to the end of May, no observations indicating military operations were observed in the border area on either side of Herrenburg. Trucks E 2-22-56 and E 2-22-67, occupied by soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets, were observed in Palingen in mid-May.
6. On 28 May, an observation platform occupied by a soldier was noticed for the first time on the roof of the Burmeister House in Schlagesdorf, northeast of Katzeburg (M 54/T 07). A Soviet border guard detail of 18 men was quartered in the house.
7. On 30 May, the observation platform on top of the Soviet komendantura building in Gerstungen was manned by two soldiers. The sentry at the Autobahn northwest of Gerstungen was connected with the komendantura by telephone. Soldiers did entrenching work along the edge of the woods from kilometer marker 210.5, 1,200 meters east of Gerstungen, as far as kilometer marker 211.9, 300

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meters northwest of Herda. Soviet troops conducted a field exercise in the Doeller Woods, 3 km northeast of Gerstungen, during the night of 29 May. The main roads to the woods were blocked by German police during the exercise. \*

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\* **Comment.** The report confirms that no discernible movement of troops or reinforcement of border guard personnel took place in the zonal border areas mentioned prior to the middle and end of May 1951 respectively.

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